

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates December 30, 2011

This publication updates you on major Department initiatives including policy changes and program updates. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues and contact the designated staff person if you would like more information.

Thank you to those who completed the At a Glance survey last month. We have incorporated some of your suggestions into this edition and will be incorporating more of your suggestions into future editions. Your suggestions are always welcome; please contact <u>Michelle Adams</u> with your feedback.

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Breaking News

Colorado Medicaid Receives \$26 Million CHIPRA Bonus

Earlier this week, the Department received \$26,141,052 from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) Performance Bonus for federal fiscal year 2011.

In order to qualify for the bonus, Colorado established five of eight Medicaid and CHP+ program features known to promote enrollment and retention in health coverage for children, and demonstrated a significant increase in Medicaid enrollment among children during the course of the year.

"The Department has continued to make progress on increasing the number of insured children in Colorado," says Susan E. Birch, executive director. "This bonus is also recognition of the hard work our local county and community partners have done to reach eligible but not enrolled kids."

The Department qualified for a performance bonus last year and had included the bonus in its budget planning.

To view the press release click here.

Heinzeroth Joins HCPF as New Administration and Innovation Office Director

Susan Heinzeroth joined the Department today as Administration and Innovation Office Director. The Administration and Innovation Office Director position is new at HCPF and will strive to engage Department resources in improving business processes, efficiently managing day-to-day administration and developing and adapting strategies to achieve Department goals.

Before joining the Department, Heinzeroth was Founder and Director of SageRiver Consulting, Inc. The firm's services covered a broad spectrum of business and organizational development challenges such as facilitating the strategic planning process, guiding change initiatives, conducting market assessments and benchmarking studies, identifying and clarifying strategic goals, and defining innovative strategies to achieve them.



Prior to starting SageRiver, Heinzeroth was a partner with Cornerstone Consulting Group and a Manager with Coopers & Lybrand. Her consulting experience included numerous health care clients, large organizations, nonprofits and government agencies.

Heinzeroth received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Sociology from Luther College and a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Colorado Denver.

To view the press release click here.

Family Planning Waiver Application Withdrawn

The Department, in consultation with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and other stakeholders, has withdrawn the family planning waiver application that was originally submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in July 2008. The family planning waiver would have expanded Medicaid coverage for family planning services to low-income women and men who don't have insurance that covers these services and aren't eligible for Medicaid.

Several factors were considered in the decision. Some included:

• In January 2014, the people who would have been covered under the waiver (<200% FPL) will either be eligible for Medicaid (<133% FPL) or will be eligible for a subsidized

- plan covering all essential benefits including family planning services through the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange.
- The claims system and eligibility system programming changes for the waiver would compete with other changes, including some federally-mandated projects.

For more details about the decision view the <u>Department's letter to stakeholders</u> or contact <u>Ginger Burton</u> at 303-866-2693.

CHP+ Enrollment Fee Cost-Sharing Changes Reminder

The new enrollment fee for certain CHP+ clients goes into effect on January 1, 2012. This fee does not apply to all CHP+ clients, only those in certain income categories. Anyone under 205% FPL will have the same fee as before. Changes to copayment amounts will not be in place until July 1, 2012.

If you would like more information, visit Colorado.gov/hcpf and click on "What's New".

Improving Health Outcomes

Accountable Care Collaborative Referral Requirement Update

Primary Care Medical Providers (PCMPs) in the Accountable Care Collaborative (ACC) are expected to provide a referral for their clients to see specialists and other primary care providers. There is currently a grace period in effect for referrals. During this grace period, PCMPs are expected to provide referrals for their clients; however, specialist and other primary care provider claims without a referral will be paid. The grace period will remain in effect until the policy is fully re-evaluated with our stakeholders.

If you have questions or need additional information contact ACC contract managers <u>Kathryn</u> <u>Jantz</u>, <u>Jerry Smallwood</u> or <u>Greg Trollan</u> or visit the <u>ACC Web site</u>.

Containing Costs

Dual Eligible Demonstration Proposal Update

The next dual eligible demonstration proposal stakeholder meeting will be January 19 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the Clayton Early Learning Center Administration Building at 3751 Martin Luther King Blvd. The meeting will focus on updates from the five workgroups, discussion of the draft proposal, and project timeline. The five work groups are:

- Behavioral Health,
- Coordination of Care.
- Communication: Outreach and Information.
- Financing Strategies and Quality Medical Outcomes, and
- · Developmental Disabilities.

For more information about the work groups please visit the <u>Dual Eligible Demonstration</u> <u>Proposal Web site</u>.

If you would like to attend the stakeholder meeting please RSVP to <u>Laura Pionke</u> at 303-866-3980 by January 16, 2012.

Improving Long Term Services and Supports Delivery System

Colorado Choice Transitions

Last month the CCT Operational Protocol (OP), the official roadmap to implementation for the Money Follows the Person (MFP) program, was officially approved by CMS. The OP serves as the policy and procedures manual for the grant. You can access the OP by visiting our Web site at Colorado.gov/hcpf/CCT.

The Department was awarded \$400,000 in MFP supplemental funding by The Administration on Aging (AoA) and CMS to facilitate and strengthen the roles of Colorado's Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) in supporting transitions from nursing homes. The funding will be targeted to ADRCs in three counties (Larimer, Mesa and Pueblo). The capacity of these ADRCs will be expanded to provide counseling to nursing facility residents who wish to learn more about their options for returning to the community. A grant-funded staff position will be hired to establish data and reporting systems to monitor these efforts and to produce performance reports as part of the overall MFP program.

The Department worked with a marketing and communications consultant and focus groups to create a Colorado-specific brand for the MFP program. The most popular name was Colorado Choice Transitions (CCT) with the tag line of 'Your Path to Independence.' Our new logo and collateral materials for the program will be distributed soon. The Long Term Care Advisory Committee, Steering Committee for Colorado Choice Transitions and the Communication, Training and Outreach Workgroup (CTO) helped in developing and approving the materials.

The CCT project team is currently in the benefit design process.

If you want to participate in the benefit design process or for more information about Colorado Choice Transitions, please contact <u>Nicole Storm</u> at 303-866-2858.

Healthy Living Initiatives

Tobacco Cessation Counseling for Pregnant Women on Medicaid

Through the Tobacco Cessation Initiative, the Department is working to improve services for Medicaid clients who want to quit smoking or using tobacco. The Department now offers reimbursement for tobacco cessation counseling provided to women during pregnancy and up to 60 days postpartum, effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2012. Please see the Department's January 2012 Provider Bulletin for details.

As a reminder:

- Information about Medicaid coverage of tobacco cessation medications and nicotine replacement therapies can be found on the Department's <u>Tobacco Cessation Assistance</u> site.
- Providers and clients should discuss the benefits and risks of using these products during pregnancy.
- All Medicaid clients who use tobacco and want to quit, including pregnant women, can also be referred to the <u>Colorado QuitLine</u> at 1-800-QUIT-NOW. A fax referral form is available here. Free QuitLine materials can be ordered at cohealthresources.org.

If you would like more information about the Department's Healthy Living Initiatives, please visit our Health Living Web page or contact Lisa Waugh at 303-866-2029.

New Web site Resources

- This month the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services launched a new Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHP+ in Colorado) Web site, www.medicaid.gov.
- The Colorado Health Benefit Exchange launched a new Web site this month, www.getcoveredco.org

Employment Opportunities

Applying for state jobs has just become easier! Applications are electronic, you will receive updates, and you do not need to answer any written questions until it is determined that you meet the minimum qualifications. Check out the new Web site and our job openings.

The Department offers a competitive benefits package that includes the Public Employees' Retirement Account (PERA), a 401K or 457 retirement plan, health and dental insurance options, 10 holidays, and accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

Enrollment

In November 2011, there were 614,146 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 71,988 clients enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's Budget Web page.